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Announcer: The investigation of the assassinatjon of President John Kennedy has been coming under increasing fire recently, especialy after revelations that the FBI had contact with Lee Harvey Oswals before the assassination. However Senator Kennedy said today that he still supppoots the Warren Commission findings. Robert Krulwich has this report from Washington:

Krulwich: The Warren Commission report on President Kennedy's assassination is coming under increasing fire, but today Sen. Ted Kennedy says he ~~xxix~~ still believes that the report is accurate.

Sen. Kennedy (voice); I've been satisfied with the conclusions of the Warren Commission and I still am. [unintelligible beginning of a Q&A with reporter cut off].

Krulwich: In a special edition today the New Republic, a national magazine, published transcripts f the Warren Commission's secret executive sessions, showing what the commjssioners said to each other in their secret meetings, 1963 to 1964. They transcripts were declassified last springp but until now no one has thoroughly analyzed them. The transcripts show that Earl Warren and the other commissioners including then Congressman Jerry Ford, were increasingly suspicious of the FBI. At one point Jerry Ford said that outside forces ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ -- he cites the Justice Department -- were trying to pressure the commission to conclude that Oswald was a solitary assassin. At another point the Warren Commission's cheif Counsel, J. Lee Rankin, says of the FBI: "They would like to have us fold up and quit." And he adds sarcastically: "They found the man (referring to Oswald. There's nothing more to do. We can go home, and that's the end of it."

Some commissioners felt J.Edgar Hoover should have to prove that Lee Harvey Oswald was not an FBI agent, but no one wanted to insult the powerful director of the FBI. The commissioners at one point spent two hours trying to figure out a way to approach Hoover so he wouldn't think they were trying to investigate him or contradict his word. Not only were the commissioners suspicious of the FBI investigators, the transcript shows they felt pressured by a secret deadline. The public was told there'd be no time limit to the Warren investigation, but the transcripts have Earl Warren saying to the other commjssioners that it would "be very bad for the country" if the report wasn't in before the 1964 presidential election campaign began.

A few weeks ago Sen. Richard Schweiker, Republican from Pennsylvania who is on the Senate Intelligence Committee said he wants that committee to look into charges that Hoover, the FBI, even the CIA, did not cooperate with the Warren Commission and in one case actually destroyed evidence. Chairman Frank Church and vice-chairman John Tower have said that a separate committee should be assigned that task -- the intelligence committee already has enough to do. For example, today it agreed to look into charges that a high-ranking official of Richard Nixon's administration ordered the assassination of columnist Jack Anderson. And Senator Kennedy's appearance before that committee today was to repeat his view, often stated, that his brothers, John and Robert, did not order any foreign leaders assassination. Kennedy is satisfied, he says, to a moral certainty, that the value his brothers placed on human life would have prevented them from giving any such order. In Washington, for Pacifica Radio, this is RobertKrulwich reporting.

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